

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

After entry of the above amendment, claims 37-51 will be pending. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed, for example, on pages 13, 19-21, in the Examples as well as Table 1. The specification has been amended to reflect the current claim of priority. An executed substitute declaration will be filed in due course. No new matter has been added.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants would like to thank Examiner Zara for the personal interview conducted on August 20, 2003. At the interview, Applicants brought to the Examiner's attention the fact that a petition was filed on July 16, 2002 (copy resent to PCT Legal Office on August 19, 2003) to correct the filing date for the present application, which is a National Phase application. As of this date, Applicants are still awaiting a decision.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112**

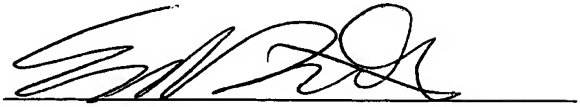
Claims 28, 29, 35 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking enablement. The Office Action asserts that the claims were not enabled for alimentary delivery of an oligonucleotide that can "modulate the expression of any and/or all target genes". Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, in an attempt to advance prosecution, revised claims have been introduced, wherein the seemingly objectionable "modulating expression of a target nucleic acid" language has been removed. Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims are fully enabled.

**DOCKET NO.:** ISIS-3013  
**Application No.:** 09/403,539  
**Office Action Dated:** June 3, 2002

**PATENT**

The foregoing constitutes a *bona fide* attempt to advance prosecution. The undersigned invites the Examiner to contact her should there be any questions.

Date: September 22, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma R. Dailey', is written over a horizontal line.

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